

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks.

By the foregoing amendment, claims 1, 5, 17, 19, 20, 24, 25, 36, 37 and 39 have been amended. Thus, claims 1, 3, 5-6, 8-20, 22, 24-25, and 27-39 are currently pending in the application and subject to examination.

In the Office Action mailed September 22, 2004, the specification was objected to; claims 17, 19, 36 and 39 were objected to because of certain informalities; claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 8-19, 22, 24, 25, 27-35, 38 and 39 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph; and claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 8-20, 22, 24, 25, 27-35 and 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. The Office Action also indicated that subject matter of claims 20, 36, and 37 is allowable.

Objection to the Specification

The specification has been amended to delete the paragraphs objected to. Therefore, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the specification.

Objections to the Claims

Claims 17, 19, 36 and 39 stand objected to because of certain formalities. These claims have been amended responsive to the objection. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph

Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 8-19, 22, 24, 25, 27-35, 38 and 39 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The third transistor described in claim 1 corresponds to a transistor 3, and is sufficiently supported on page 14, lines 26 through 30 (paragraph [0069] of US 2002-0171453 A1) as: "Specifically, the transistor 3 is configured as a small transistor having a gate width about one thirtieth the gate width of the transistor 30. Therefore, a minute current flows constantly in the differential input transistors 1 and 2."

Further, the fourth transistor described in claim 1 corresponds to a transistor 30, and is sufficiently supported on page 15, lines 8 through 12 (paragraph [0071] of US 2002-0171453 A1) as: "For signal determination, when the clock CK changes from low level "L" to high level "H", the transistor 30 turns on and a current path is formed from the high potential power line AVD to the low potential power line AVS (ground GND) and the drive current flows". Therefore, claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 8-19, 22, 24, 25, 27-35, 38 and 39 comply with the written description requirement. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 8-20, 22, 24, 25, 27-35 and 37 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 1, 5, 17, 19, 20, 24, 25, 36 and 37 have been amended such that claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 8-20, 22, 24, 25, 27-35 and 37 now

particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Conclusion

Applicants' amendments and remarks have overcome the objections and rejections set forth in the Office Action dated September 22, 2004. Applicants' amendment to the specification overcomes the objection to the specification. Applicants' amendments to claims 17, 19, 36 and 39 have overcome the objections to these claims. Applicants' remarks have overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. The amendments to claims 1, 5, 17, 19, 20, 24, 25, 36 and 37 overcome the rejection of claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 8-20, 22, 24, 25, 27-35 and 37 under and 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Applicants respectfully submit that the application is now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes the application is not in condition for allowance, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact the undersigned by telephone if it is believed that such contact will expedite the prosecution of the application.

In the event that this paper is not considered to be timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time.

In the event that any additional fees are due with respect to the filing of this paper, the undersigned authorizes the Office to charge any additional fees to our Deposit Account No. 01-2300, making reference to Docket No. 100021-00069.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures: Petition for Extension of Time
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